

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Engineering

Minutes of Meeting No. 78.11

of the

Engineering Faculty Council

held

Friday, 24 November 1978

Present: M.N.S. Swamy (Chairman); Professors Antoniou, Bhargava, Douglass, Fazio, Ha, Krakow, Krantzberg, Kubina, Lindsay, Nasser, Osman, Russell, Sankar, Vidyasagar, Xistris; P. Rohr and J. Huang (Student representatives); L. Harris (Library representative); Prof. J.C. Giguere (Secretary)

Visitors: Professors Ramachandran, Lombos; Messrs Yemenidjian, Sharma, Daniel, Jayaraman, Chockalingam, Kotiuga, Rezk, Natarajan, Ahmad, Sundaramurthy and Raman (Graduate Students)

Absent with apology: Professors Guy, Habashi, Joly, Troitsky

Motion  
78-11-1

1. Council unanimously adopted a motion to accept the published agenda it being agreed that item 5.3 would be referred to as EGSC Doc. 78018.

Motion  
78-11-2

2. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve the minutes of meeting 78-10 with the addition of Professors Lindsay and Ha to the list of those present.
3. The Chairman advised that Prof. Kwok had been awarded a three-year strategic grant by NSERC valued at \$40,000 per annum in order to carry out work in fluid controls.
4. Graduate curriculum changes  
  
Prof. Ramachandran, Chairman of EGSC, presented that committee's proposals for graduate curriculum changes (Doc. 78-11-1). He advised that there was one addition to be made to the minor modifications, namely, the title and description change to ELEC N704 as set out in Doc. 78-11-4.
5. In response to a question, the Chairman noted the content of ELEC N704 had been modified to reflect the greater emphasis on microwave distributed filter networks, and that the title had been modified to reflect this emphasis.
6. There was some discussion concerning the practice of listing (under a separate heading of "Courses not currently offered")

courses which have not been offered in the last two years, and which were not being offered in 79/80, nor currently proposed for offering in 80/81. The Assistant Dean noted that this practice had been approved by Council some three years ago. He stressed that any suggestions for improving the title of this section of the calendar would be welcome. It was also noted that in order to modify or discontinue the practice, Council would have to pass a separate resolution on the matter.

Motion  
78-11-3

7. Council considered a motion to approve and recommend to BGS and Senate the curriculum changes set out in Doc. 78-11-1 and -4, it being understood that item 2.5 of Doc. 78-11-1 was included for information only.
8. It was noted that the contents of the proposed course ENGR N600 could likely not be covered within a single term. There was also some opposition to listing such a course with a 600 number. In response to the first point, the Assistant Dean, Academic Programmes, advised that EGSC had debated this course at some length. The CBS had originally proposed two such make-up courses covering in addition several other topics which were already included in other courses. At the suggestion of EGSC, the CBS proposed the present course which EGSC had accepted while noting that the content did seem heavy for a one-term course. In response to the second point, he advised that BGS policy was to reserve 500 numbers for graduate diploma courses. Further, it would be senseless to give these courses undergraduate numbers as they then would be listed in the undergraduate calendar, but would not be open to undergraduate students. He noted that we already listed a number of courses which are not creditable towards a 45-credit Master's programme.

Motion  
78-11-4

9. Council considered a motion to amend Motion 78-11-3 by changing the titles of ENGR N600 to Elements of Engineering Mathematics, and by increasing to 6 the number of credits attached to the course.

Motion  
78-11-5

10. Council unanimously adopted a motion to call the question on Motion 78-11-4.
11. Motion 78-11-4 was approved unanimously.
12. It was noted that BLDG N680 bore the same title as the topic area under which it was listed.

Motion  
78-11-6

13. Council unanimously adopted a motion to amend Motion 78-11-3 by changing the title of BLDG N680 to Construction Planning and Management.
14. Council unanimously approved Motion 78-11-3 as amended by Motions 78-11-4 and -6.

15. Title of Doctoral programme

Dr. Ramachandran presented Doc. 78-11-2 proposing that the title of the doctoral programme be changed from D.Eng. to Ph.D. He noted that all departments recommended the change, as did all doctoral students who had attended a meeting called to discuss the proposed change.

In response to comments, Assistant Dean Giguere advised that Doc. 78-11-2 would be presented in its entirety to BGS and Senate. He also noted that the fact that Ecole Polytechnique had recently changed the title of its doctoral programme to Ph.D. would be included.

Prof. Fazio asked that the statements of the CBS be read into the minutes (Doc. 78-11-5). The Chairman advised that EGSC would be asked to review admission requirements for the programme and recommend to Council on the matter in the near future.

Motion  
78-11-7

16. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve and recommend to BGS and Senate the adoption of the recommendations set out in Doc. 78-11-2.

17. Structure of graduate programme

Prof. Giguere drew Council's attention to Doc. 78-11-3. He advised that if Council adopted the recommendations contained therein, the rationale would be included in the submissions to BGS and Senate.

In response to a query, he noted that students would be admitted to a department, and that students would have the option of changing departments providing the new department was prepared to accept them. However, as is the case at the undergraduate level, it was possible that students who moved from one department to another would be required to complete more than the minimum number of credits needed for the degree.

It was also noted that assigning students to a department did not prevent those who so wished from completing a thesis with a member of another department. One possibility, which would be referred to EGSC for consideration was the establishment of supervisory committees for students in the thesis options.

It was argued that the departmentalization of programmes would lead to unnecessary rivalry between departments and possible duplication of course offerings. In response, it was argued that EGSC, the Executive Committee and Council itself were there to ensure that there would be no unnecessary duplication of effort, and to promote co-operation in areas of mutual interest. It was also noted that the major defect of the present Faculty degree was the lack of any mechanism which would permit a department to tailor graduate programmes to meet the needs of its own

students.

It was suggested that departments could institute a system akin to "majors" and "minors", the minor being taken outside the home department.

It was noted that EGSC would shortly, in consultation with departments, examine the balance which should exist between the number of departmentally specified credits and electives.

Motion  
78-11-8

18. Council adopted a motion to recommend to BGS and Senate recommendation 5.1 of Doc. 78-11-3 (10 in favour; 1 opposed; 2 recorded abstentions)

Motion  
78-11-9

19. Council unanimously adopted a motion to recommend to BGS and Senate recommendation 5.2 of Doc. 78-11-3.

20. Appraisals

It was noted that the M.Eng. (Building) programme was not included in the appraisals process scheduled for 1979/80.

21. Publicity

In response to a query, Assistant Dean Giguere indicated that he would check the accuracy of material included in the M.Eng. application package. He also agreed to look into the publication date of graduate posters.